Welcome to issue 2, Volume 19 of Laser Therapy. In this issue you will find an excellent review article from the renowned US photobiologist, Kendric C Smith, in which he uses LLLT as the acronym for Low reactive-Level LIGHT Therapy, rather than the original ‘Laser’. I could not agree more, because after all the first letter of the acronym LASER also stands for ‘light’, and from the beginning of my interest in laser and other light sources, I have always held true to my belief that light is essential to life. The journal now has a large number of societies which have accepted it as their official organ and we must never forget that the first society to adopt the reborn Laser Therapy was the International Phototherapy Association (IPTA), which in turn was formed to include all aspects of light therapy including LEDs and other non-laser sources. I recommend that you read this article by Smith carefully, as it sets out to clarify some of the important basics in phototherapy, and what does, or does not, make a good paper.

Progress with IMeLaS Accreditation
As you know, the first accreditation program of the International medical Laser Specialist (IMeLaS) initiative was successfully held during Laser Tokyo 2009 last November/December. Since then, following deep discussions among the Executive Committee Members of both the World Federation of Societies for Laser Medicine and Surgery (WFSLMS) and the International Society for Laser Surgery and Medicine (ISLSM), it has been decided to rename, or rather, reclassify IMeLaS certification to the International Laser License System (ILLiS) qualification, under the umbrella of the International Academy Laser Medicine and Surgery (IALMS) based in Florence, Italy. This is a wider classification system, incorporating as it does, in addition to IMeLaS certification for medical doctors (MD, Mb ChB or equivalent); International Dental Laser Specialist (IDeLaS) for dental surgeons (DDS, or equivalent); International Physicist Laser Specialist (P-ILaS), for qualified scientists and researchers (PhD, or equivalent); International Veterinary Laser Specialist (IVeLaS) for veterinarians (DVM, or equivalent); International Laser Nursing Specialist (ILNuS) for qualified laser nurses (RN, SEN, SRN, or equivalent); and the International Laser Engineering Specialist (ILES) for qualified laser engineers (MSc, PhD, or equivalent). Each of the above categories is offered at 4 grades, as for the original IMeLaS.

The entry level is Grade 4, represented by the prefix C- (e.g., C-IMeLaS, C-IDeLaS, et cetera); Grade 3 is represented by the suffix B-; Grade 2 by the suffix A-; and Grade 1 by the suffix I-, where ‘I’ stands for Instructor.

The next ILLiS initiative will be held this October in conjunction with the 13th congress of the Asian-Pacific Association for Laser Medicine and Surgery (APALMS) to be held in Suwa City, Nagano Prefecture, Japan on October 9th and 10th, under the Presidency of Dr Yoshimi Asagai. In the meantime, please get your application in for the ILLiS initiative course. Please see more information on the 13th APALMS meeting and ILLiS application later on in this Editorial.

Follow-Up to Laser Tokyo 2009
Once again, as Laser Tokyo 2009 Congress President, I would like to thank all the participants for their great cooperation, especially the 117 oral presenters in the 26 ISLSM symposia and the 17 poster presenters in the ISLSM poster session from over 30 countries. The 18th ISLSM scientific committee and the moderators of each of the symposia evaluated the speakers’ poster presenters’ presentations and abstracts along the lines of the following 5 points: composition of abstracts, fluency of speech, contribution to clinical applications, new ideas and comprehensibility. Now it is our great pleasure to announce the winners of BEST/GOOD SPEECH AWARDS in each category and BEST/GOOD POSTER AWARDS selected as follows. Congratulations to all the winners!

Figure 1: Award Certificate and Trophy for BEST SPEECH
EDITORIAL

LASER BASICS:
Best: Yosky Kataoka “Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP) in Mechanism of LLLT”
Good: Min Yao “Photochemical Tissue Bonding (PTB) for Wound Repairs”
Good: Masamitsu Ichihashi “Beneficial and Adverse Effects of Phototherapy”

LLLT
Best: Shinichi Kogure “Effects of Low-Power Laser Irradiation on the Paroxysmal Discharge Threshold in the Rabbit Hippocampus”
Best: Steve Tumilty “The Use of Low Level Laser Therapy in Musculoskeletal Physiotherapy in New Zealand”
Good: Takanori Iriuchishima “The Establishment of Photodynamic Therapy for Septic Arthritis”
Good: Takashi Umeda “Assessment of Physiological and Psychological Stresses in Rugby Players, Marathon Runners and Judoists and the Application Potentiality of Phototherapy to Reduce Those Stresses”
Good: Yuki Taniguchi “Proximal Priority Treatment Using the Neck Irradiator for Adjunctive Treatment of Female Infertility”
Good: Katsumi Sasaki “Low Reactive Level Laser Therapy in the Treatment of Post Herpetic Neuralgia”

PDD & PDT
Best: Jitsuo Usuda “Outcome of Photodynamic Therapy Using NPe6 for Centrally Located Lung Cancer Greater Than 1.0 cm in Diameter”
Good: Norio Miyoshi “Combination Therapy of PDT with Proton Irradiation”
Good: Yoshinari Matsumoto “Clinical Responses of Topical Photodynamic Therapy in Dermatology”

ONCOLOGY AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY
Best: Masaru Sakamoto “Photodynamic Therapy for Uterine Cervical Cancer and Fertility Preservation”
Good: Yoshiro Nishiwaki “Photodynamic Therapy for Esophageal, Gastric and Duodenal Cancers”
Good: Yuichi Hashishin “Development of the Laser Percussion”

DERMATOLOGY AND PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY
Best: Kazuo Kishi “Keloid, Hypertrophic Scars and Inflammation”
Best: Jin Wang Kim “Laser Skin Rejuvenation in Asia”
Good: Takafumi Ohshiro “Combined Laser Treatment for Port Wine Stains”
Good: Shinichi Watanabe “The Condition Known as “Dark Rings under the Eyes” is a Kind of Dermal Melanocytosis Which Can be Successfully Treated by Q-Switched Ruby Laser”
Good: Atsushi Fukunaga “UV Therapy in Atopic Dermatitis”

DENTISTRY, GYNECOLOGY AND OTHERS
Best: Nelson Marquina “Tissue Regeneration Effect of High Intensity Diode Cold Lasers and the Clinical Applications in Peridontal Therapy”
Best: Akihito Watanabe “Diagnostic Value of Narrow Band Imaging for Early Head and Neck Cancers”
Good: Tadamasa Tsuda “The Application of “ER,CR;YSGG Laser” for Oral Surgery and Implants”
Good: Aisaku Fukuda “Is Laser Assisted Hatching Beneficial to ART Treatment?”
Good: Chung-Ku Rhee “Effects of Low Level Laser Therapy (LLLT) on Gentamicin Vestibulotoxicity in Rat Utricle”

BEST/GOOD POSTER AWARDS
Best: Virapun Bunmas “LLLT Combined with Nano Spray and Iontophoresis for Facial Skin Care and Scalp Care, Thailand Experience”
Good: Kira Samoilova “Immunorehabilitation of Breast Cancer Patients with Low Power Polychromatic (Visible+IR) Radiation after Mastectomy”
13th APALMS Meeting

As mentioned above, the 13th congress of the Asian-Pacific Association for Laser Surgery and Medicine (APALMS) will take place on October 9th and 10th. I urge you all from the Asian-Pacific rim countries, and of course beyond, to attend this meeting to learn from others, and to disseminate your precious knowledge and techniques to your brother and sister clinicians and other professional medical personnel. The Congress President is our very own Yoshimi Asagai, and he and his Organising Committee are working on a superb programme for you, including the second IMeLaS initiative under the revised classification of ILLiS. The congress hotel is situated lakeside to Lake Suwa with tremendous panoramas over the water. For full information, please visit the congress website at http://shinanoiryo.heteml.jp/htdocs/apalms/ for registration forms and all other congress information.

Indexing of Laser Therapy on J-STAGE

From the previous issue (19:1), Laser Therapy is being indexed by the Japan Science and Technology Information Aggregator, Electronic, J-STAGE. In order to support the information transmission function of user organizations, J-STAGE, developed by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), set up the hardware and software necessary for electronic journal release within JST to provide services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. By taking advantage of the hardware and software, the user organizations are able to computerize bulletins of academic societies and research papers which currently appear with ease and at low cost. Computerized documents can be accessed from anywhere in the world with this system. This project also links up with the National Institute of Informatics, formerly the Ministry of Education National Center for Science Information Systems (NACSIS). You can search for the title, abstracts and authors of the journal at http://www.jstage.jst.go.jp/browse/journallist. When you find Laser Therapy in the ‘New’ list, or search alphabetically under ‘L’, you will be taken to the Laser Therapy page, from which you can search by author or keyword. Currently we are working on the fee system by which entire papers may be downloaded in PDF format, and we will update you on that as and when we have more detailed information. This is an important step towards gaining full indexing by PubMed, Excerpta Medica (EmBase) and Medline, and moving towards the electronic publishing of the journal online in addition to the existing hard copy option.

So, dear readers, please enjoy this issue of your journal. Please remember, we cannot have any journal without papers, and I urge you to get writing and send in articles, case reports and Letters to the Editor. We will also accept anecdotal reports only when full laser or light therapy parameters have been supplied, otherwise the manuscript will be returned without review.

Tokyo, May 2010